Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 SCA-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 //079 W

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R 012110Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5481

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

US MISSION GENEVA 1007

CONFIDENTIAL SANTIAGO 5439

EO 11652: GDS TAGS: UNHCR SREF

SUBJ: REFUGEES IN LATIN AMERICA

REF: STATE 151670

1. THE SITUATION IN CHILE WHICH STIMULATED THE ORIGINAL US PAROLE PROGRAM FOR DETAINEES HAS CHANGED RADICALLY. THE "UNIVERSE" OF POTENTIAL PAROLEES HAS SHRUNK DRAMATICALLY. AT THE BEGINNING OF 1976 THERE WEREOVER4,000 PERSONS IN PRISON FOR POLITICAL OR SECURITY RELATED OFFENSES. TODAY THERE ARE FEWER THAN 400, OF WHICH ONLY A FAIRLY SMALL NUMBER ARE INTERESTED IN OR ELIGIBLE FOR PAROLE TO THE US. REGARDING THE SECOND TRANCHE OF THE CHILE PAROLE PROGRAM, OUR UNDERSTANDING IS THAT 39 ADDITONAL DETAINEE CASES HAVE BEEN ALLOTTED (18 HEADS OF FAMILIES HAVE ALREADY CONFIDENTIAL

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TRAVELED TO THE US). THE EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT THE PROGRAM BE EXPANDED TO 50 CASES.

2. THE EMBASSY, OF COURSE, IS IN CONSTANT CONTACT WITH ICEM, THE ICRC, UNHCR, ETC. THE DAY BEFORE WE RECEIVED REFTEL, MR. GILBERT JAEGER, DIRECTOR OF PROTECTION OF THE UNHCR, CALLED ACCOMPANIED BY HIS LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE.

JAEGER RAISED A PROBLEM REGARDING THE US PAROLE PROGRAM FOR CHILEANS IN ARGENTINA. WE REQUIRE THAT CHILEAN REFUGEE PAROLE APPLICANTS FURNISH PROOF OF MILITARY SERVICE ("CARTILLA MILITAR"). THE GOC IS HASSLING THE CHILEANS WHO ARE REQUIRED TO GO TO CHILEAN CONSULATES TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR MILITARY CREDENTIALS--AT BEST A LONG, DRAWN-OUT AFFAIR. JAEGER POINTED OUT THAT BY DEFINITION POLITICAL REFUGEES HAVE STRAINED RELATIONS WITH THEIR GOVERMENTS; JAEGER WONDERED IF ANYTHING COULD BE DONE. SUBJECT TO THE VIEWS OF OUR COLLEAGUES IN BUENOS AIRES, WE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT THE USG WAIVE THE REQUIREMENT THAT CHILEAN POLITICAL REFUGEES IN ARGENTINA FURNISH PROOF OF MILITARY SERVICE.

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Message Attributes

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